

BOROUGH OF LAMPETER.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you the Report for the Year 1936, together with the Table of Vital Statistics.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	1,648
Population (Census 1931)	1,742
Estimated Population (Mid. 1936)	2,176
Number of inhabited houses (1931)	521
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1936) according to Rate Books	613
Number of families or separate occupiers (Census 1931)	502
Rateable Value	£8,967
Sum represented by a penny rate	£35 10s. 0d.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

		Total.	Male.	Female.	
Live Births	{ Legitimate	11	7	4	{ Birth Rate : 5.5
	{ Illegitimate	1	—	1	
Still Births	.. .. .	—	—	—
Deaths	.. .. .	43	19	24	Death Rate : 19.76
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth : from Sepsis, Nil ; other causes, Nil.					
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age : Legitimate, Nil ; Illegitimate, 1. Total : 1.					
Deaths from Measles (all ages) : Nil.					
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) : Nil.					
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) : Nil.					
Particulars of any unusual or excessive mortality during the year which was received or required comment. Nil.					
The average age at death is 67.					

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

- PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY :
(a) *Medical*.—Part time Medical Officer of Health.
(b) *Others*.—Part time Sanitary Inspector.
- NURSING IN THE HOME. NATURE OF THE ARRANGEMENTS IN THE AREA :
(a) *General*.—Two local Nurses supervise the District as Health Visitors. Both have the C.M.B. qualification and the Senior Nurse is a fully trained Hospital Nurse. These Nurses are subsidized by the County Council.
(b) *Infectious Diseases*.—None.
- MIDWIVES :
Number of Midwives practising in the area—2. The Council do not employ or subsidise Midwives practising in the District.
- NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE :
Administered by the Cardiganshire Insurance Committee.
- POOR LAW MEDICAL OUT RELIEF :
Administered by the Cardiganshire Public Assistance Committee.
- LABORATORY FACILITIES :
The Laboratory work is done by the Clinical Research Association, Adelphi, London, and also by the M.O.H.
- LEGISLATION IN FORCE :
Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890, Section 4.
Public Health Acts (Amendment Act), 1890, Part III.
Bye Laws relating to New Buildings.
- HOSPITALS :
Cardiganshire General Infirmary, Aberystwyth, and Aberayron Cottage Hospital.
Facilities are available at the above Hospitals for Operative Surgery and X Ray.
X Ray Apparatus : private property of the M.O.H.
- MATERNITY AND NURSING HOME :
A Maternity Home is now available at Aberystwyth.
- MATERNAL MORTALITY : None.
- INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS AND HOMELESS CHILDREN :
Public Assistance Institution.
- INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION, IF ANY, FOR THE CARE OF MENTAL DEFECTIVES : None.
- AMBULANCE FACILITIES :
(a) For infectious cases—None.
(b) For non-infectious cases and accident—None. Use has to be made of private cars and trains.
The usual Hospital for cases at Lampeter requiring Surgical Treatment is the Infirmary, Aberystwyth.
A movement is on foot to procure a motor ambulance for the district.

There is a Motor Ambulance at Aberystwyth.
 Infectious diseases are treated by isolation at their homes.
 Consequently, use is made of the Aberystwyth Ambulance, trains and private cars.
 There has been no occasion of delay in sending cases due to lack of transit.
 There is a very efficient First Aid Service in the Borough, both men and women teams are well trained and fully equipped. These are under the control and supervision of the Mayor for the time being. They have proved of great value in minor accidents and illnesses.

14. CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES :

Out-patient Department (under control of the Local Authority).—Administered by County Council.
Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.—There is a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre in the district which is well attended. It is held every other week. The Welfare Centre and the School Clinic are linked up with the Infirmary and the Maternity Home at Aberystwyth, where all cases requiring observation and special treatment are sent.
Ante-Natal Clinics.—Administered by County Council.
School Clinics.—Held annually by the County Medical Officer.
Orthopaedic Clinics.—Administered by County Council, Clinics held at Aberayron.
Tuberculosis Dispensaries.—None provided by this Council. The Tuberculosis Officer visits the Clinic at Bryn Road weekly and the scheme is conducted under the Welsh National Memorial Association. Treatment is either domiciliary or institutional. The notification of Tuberculosis in the district is thorough and prompt and treatment is very efficiently carried out by the Tuberculosis Officer.
Treatment Centres for Venereal Diseases.—None provided by the Council. Arrangements have been made by the County Council.
Other Clinics and Day Nurseries.—None.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

WATER : There is an insufficiency of water supplied to the Town of Lampeter for about six weeks in the year. Experimental bores have been made by the Council at Olwen Farm, close to the Town. The Council is satisfied there will be an ample supply to supplement the present. Steps are being taken to bring the supply into use.

RIVERS AND STREAMS : No action was found necessary.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE :

Sewerage : The drainage of the Town continues to run into the Teify, where it is rapidly and amply diluted.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION : In Town :—

Elsans to W.C.	2
Number of conversions from privies to W.C.'s	10
Number of Water Closets (fresh water, cistern flushed)	528
Number of Waste Water and Hand-flushed Closets	11
Number of Midden Privies (Dry Closets with fixed receptacles)	5
Number of Pail Closets with moveable receptacles	26
Number of Elsan Closets	2
Number of Earth Closets	—
The privy and pail system is rapidly being abolished.	
Country District : 32 privies and 2 W.C.'s.	
Closets over streams	2
Closets used in common	1

SCAVENGING :

House Refuse is collected weekly in winter and twice weekly in the summer ; Streets Refuse is collected twice weekly. This is deposited in a field far removed from inhabited dwellings.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF AREA :

Number of Inspections of Dwelling Houses	126
Number of Inspections of Dairies and Cowsheds	36
Number of Inspections of Milk Carts	Almost daily.
Number of Inspections of Workshops and Bakehouses	146
Number of Inspections of Slaughter Houses	468
Number of Inspections of Meat Shops and Meat Carts	Almost daily.
Number of Inspections of Schools	48
Number of Houses visited upon Notification of Infectious Diseases	—
Number of Houses disinfected after Infectious Diseases	1
Number of Houses disinfected upon request	—
Number of Inspections of the Reservoir	312
Number of Inspections of Capeli Water Shed	12
Number of Inspections of Refuse Tip	52
Number of Inspections of open Sewer ditches	12
Number of Inspections of Mart Premises	156
Number of Inspections of Sand Pit	468
Number of Inspections of Public Park	104
Number of Water Inspections	812
Number of Rats Caught	971
Inspections of Public Conveniences	1872

NOTICES SERVED UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :

Number of Informal Notices served	4
Number of Informal Notices complied with	4
Number of Statutory Notices served	Nil.
Number of Statutory Notices complied with	Nil.

NEW BUILDINGS :

The following is a summary of the Plans of New Houses approved by you and of the inspections made by the Buildings Inspector during the Year :—

Number of Plans of New Buildings approved of	21
Number of Plans of Alterations and Additions to Buildings approved of	27
Number of Inspections of Dampcourses	16
Number of Inspections of concrete underneath floors	—
Number of Inspections of Drains	139

Number of Inspections and tested on completion	108
Length of New Drains tested	477 yds.

SMOKE ABATEMENT : None.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS OR REGULATIONS : None.

SCHOOLS : All the Schools are provided with water closets and adequately supplied with fresh water for flushing purposes.

RAG FLOCKS ACT, 1911 AND 1928 : No action.

HOUSING.

(a) STATISTICS.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR :

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b) :	—
(i) By the Local Authority	—
(ii) By other Local Authorities	—
(iii) By other Bodies and persons	5
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :	—
(1) By the Local Authority :	—
(a) For the purpose of 1930 Act	14
(b) For the purpose of Part III. of the Act of 1925	—
(c) For other purposes	—
(2) By other Bodies or persons	—

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :

(1) Total number of Dwelling Houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) and the number of inspections made	126
(2) Number of Dwelling Houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Act, 1935 and the number of inspections made	7
(3) Number of Dwelling Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for Human habitation	14
(4) Number of Dwelling Houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	5

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :

Number of defective Dwelling Houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	6
---	---

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :

A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 :

(1) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
(2) Number of Dwelling Houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	—
(a) By Owners	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	—
(3) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	—

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	—
(2) Number of Dwelling Houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	—
(a) By Owners	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	—

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925 :

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	—
(2) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
(3) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the Dwelling Houses having been rendered fit	—
(4) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	—
(5) Number of Dwelling Houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	—

No action was taken by the Council under the Housing Act, 1930.

4. NUMBER OF HOUSES OWNED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY :

(1) Built and held under Part III. of Housing Act, 1925	—
(2) Built and held under Part II. of Housing Act, 1925	—
(3) Built and held under other powers	—

(b) HOUSING CONDITIONS.

1. 15 new houses were completed and are occupied.

2. SUFFICIENCY OF SUPPLY OF HOUSES :

- (a) Extent of shortage, if any, of houses available at reasonable rents and the measures taken or contemplated to meet any shortage.—There is no appreciable shortage of houses.
- (b) Information as to any important changes in population during the period under review or anticipated in the future.—None.
- (c) Any special difficulties in the way of providing suitable sites for new houses.—Nil.

3. OVERCROWDING :

- (a) Extent (the basis on which the estimate has been made should be stated).—None.
- (b) Causes—how far it is due to inability to pay the rents of available houses.—Nil.
- (c) Example of special action taken during the year 1930 to deal with overcrowding.—None.

4. FITNESS OF HOUSES :

- (a) Difficulties found in action under the Public Health Acts or under Section 37 of the Housing Act, 1925.—None.
- (b) Special measures taken or suggested, e.g., in relation to particular types of insanitary property or in regard to arrangements for the gradual carrying out of programmes of repair.—Seven.
- (c) Extent to which houses have not an adequate internal water supply.—In the Town, 4 ; in country, 34.
- (d) Extent to which Houses have no water closets or other adequate sanitary accommodation within their own curtilage :—(a) Private—Number of Houses without privy accommodation are negligible ; (b) Common accommodation—2 Houses have 1 W.C. in common and 1 House one hand flush in common.

5. UNHEALTHY AREAS :

Extent to which areas of the district are unhealthy.—There are no unhealthy areas in the district.
Information as to (a) Complaints received—None ; (b) Representations made—None ; (c) Action taken—None.

6. BYELAWS RELATING TO :—

(a) Houses—Yes ; (b) Houses let in lodgings—Nil ; (c) Tents, vans, sheds, etc.—Nil.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY :

There were 48 Inspections of Cowsheds ; Milk Carts inspections almost daily.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS :

Number of carcasses inspected : Ox, 188 ; Sheep 1275 ; Calves, 188 ; Pigs, 55. One carcass of calf was condemned. 7 sheep livers were condemned for liver rot.

The great decrease in fluke is mainly due to the dry summer and to the preventative measures taken by the farmers. There is a marked improvement in the quality of beef since the operation of the Fat Cattle Grading Scheme commenced.

There is one Public Slaughter House in the town, owned by the Corporation ; 468 visits were made during the year. Periodically lime-washed and adequately flushed, with the improvements already made, the Slaughter House has now been brought up to the requirements of the Ministry of Health.

The refuse is carried away daily.

(c) ADULTERATION. Action taken under :—

Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.—None.

The Artificial Cream Act, 1929.—None.

Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927.—None.

Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927.—None.

Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925-1927.—None.

(d) NUTRITION :

Intensive propaganda work has been continued throughout the district in the direction of increased consumption of Milk, fresh vegetables and farm produce. Lectures have been delivered by the County M.O.H. to the inhabitants and especially to the School teachers to improve the nutrition and education of the Children in food habits. The observations made in the last report in regard to the improved condition of infants still holds good.

ACCREDITED MILK PRODUCERS SCHEME :

7 samples of milk were procured under the above Scheme and submitted to the Dairy Bacteriologist Agricultural Department, Aberystwyth. The following are the reports of the examination.

The standard for accredited milk is as follows :—Bacteria allowed per l c.c., 200,000. Coliform organisms (B. coli) not to be present in 1/100 C.C.s.

Code No.	Date and time of Milking.	Age when tested.	Temperature.	Bacteria per C.C..	B. Coli.
A 67.	20.1.36 5-30 p.m.	24 hours.	55°	570	1/100 per C.C. 3 tubes.
A. 89	17/3/36 do.	18 „	59°	248,000	—
A 95	31/3/36 6 pm.	18 „	56°	2,120	3 tubes. 1/100 per C.C.
A. 96.	20/4/36 6-15 p.m.	18 „	56°	280,000	3 tubes 1/100 per C.C.
A 155.	29/6/36 6-30 p.m.	18 „	53°	1,360	3 tubes 1/100 per C.C.
A 95.	8/10/36 6-30 p.m.	28 „	49°	1,200	Absent.
A 67	8/10/36 6-45 p.m.	28 „	49°	2,560	Absent.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

GENERAL :

The District has been practically free from infectious diseases during the year, except for an outbreak of measles.

No cases of Encephalitis Lethargica, Malaria, Dysentery, or Trench Fever were notified during the year.

Diphtheria Antitoxin is supplied free to Medical Practitioners by the Council.

Examinations of Pathological and Bacteriological specimens are made by the Clinical Research Association at the expense of the Council.

No use has been made of the Schick and Dick Tests, nor of the recently developed artificial methods of immunization against diphtheria.

No Primary Vaccination or Re-Vaccinations were performed by me under the Public Health (Small Pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

Reports of the non-notifiable Infectious Diseases are sent to me by the Head Teachers of the Schools, such as Impetigo, Influenza, Whooping Cough, Vermin, etc. These children are excluded from School until free from infection.

There were no cases of Anthrax or Rabies.

Facilities are provided by the Council for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons and their belongings at the Temple Buildings, where there is a steam disinfectant.

All the houses at which Infectious Diseases were notified were visited by the Sanitary Inspector and disinfected.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1936.

Disease.	Analysis of Total Cases notified.												Total Cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.	
	Under 1 year	1—2 years	2—3 years	3—4 years	4—5 years	5—10 years	10—15 years	15—20 years	20—25 years	25—35 years	35—45 years	45—65 years				65 and over
Small Pox.....
Scarlet Fever
Diphtheria	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)
Puerperal Fever
Puerperal Pyrexia
Pneumonia	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	..	1
Other diseases generally notifiable :—																
Measles	1	3	4	2	2	1	2	..	..	..	..	33	..	..	..
Erysipelas.....
Other diseases notifiable locally :																
Chicken Pox

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS :

No action was taken by the Council under Section 66 of the Public Health Amendment Act, 1925, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1936.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0.....
1.....
5.....
10.....
15.....
20.....	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25.....
35.....
45.....	1	..	..	..	..
55.....	1
65 and upwards
TOTALS	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1

ACTION TAKEN UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No action taken as no cases were notified.

No action was taken under Articles, 3, 5 and 6 of the Regulations.

No compensation was paid.

UNDER SECTION 62 OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925.

No action was taken.

I am, your obedient Servant,

EVAN EVANS,

Medical Officer of Health.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2016 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28852370>



